

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph on page 6, lines 14 to 25, as follows:

-- As Fig. 1 shows, the system 10 includes at the treatment location an ultrasound generating machine 16. The system 10 also includes at the treatment location at least one ultrasound applicator 18, which is coupled to the machine 16 during use. As ~~Figs. 4 and Fig. 5~~ shows, the system 10 also includes an assembly 12 for use with the applicator 18 to stabilize the position of the applicator 18 on a patient for hands-free use. In the illustrated embodiment (see ~~Figs. 4 and Fig. 5~~), the applicator 18 is secured against movement on a person's thorax, overlaying the sternum, to direct ultrasonic energy toward the vasculature of the heart. --

Please amend the paragraph on page 8, lines 20 to 31, as follows:

-- The machine 16 includes a power cord ~~30~~ 31 for coupling to a conventional electrical outlet, to provide operating power to the machine 16. The machine 16 also preferably includes a battery module 34 housed within the chassis 22, which enables use of the machine 16 in the absence or interruption of electrical service. The battery module 34 can comprise rechargeable batteries, that can be built in the chassis 22 or, alternatively, be removed from the chassis 22 for recharge. Likewise, the battery module 34 can include a built-in or removable battery recharger 36. Alternatively, the battery module 34 can comprise disposable batteries, which can be removed for replacement. --

Please amend the paragraph on page 12, lines 3 to 9, as follows:

-- As Fig. 5 shows, a stabilization assembly 12 allows the operator to temporarily but securely mount the applicator 18 against an exterior skin surface for use. In the illustrated embodiment, since the treatment site exists in the thoracic cavity, the ~~attachment~~ stabilization assembly ~~54~~ 12 is fashioned to secure the applicator 18 on the person's thorax, overlaying the sternum or breastbone, as Fig. 5 shows. --

Please amend the paragraph on page 17, lines 17 to 33, as follows:

-- To further mediate against cavitation-caused localized skin surface heating (see Fig. 11), the interior of the bladder chamber 50 can include a recessed well region 212 surrounding the transducer face 46. The well region 212 is located at a higher gravity position than the plane of the transducer face 46. Air bubbles 214 that may form in fluid located in the bladder chamber 50 ~~are led by gravity to~~ collect in the well region 212 away from the ultrasonic energy beam path. A convex contact area 202 (as shown in Fig. 11) further enhances the ~~gravity-assisted~~ collection of air bubbles 214 in the well region 212, as shown by arrows 216 in Fig. 11. The air bubbles 214, to the extent they form, are kept away from the region of skin contact and out of the path of the ultrasonic energy beam. To minimize the possibility of air bubbles being present in the ultrasonic beam, the transducer face 46 may also be convex in shape (as Fig. 11 shows). --